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1797 September 2, 1904

Enteric fever at Quito—Death of sheep on steamship Pizarro.

The following dispatch is translated from El Grito del Pueblo:

Quito, July 28: The mortality here produced by enteric fever is alarming. Neither the municipal nor federal authorities are engaged in fighting the epidemic.

From the same paper I translate the following cable from Callao:

As 17 sheep died on the steamship *Pizarro* during the trip from Panama to Callao, the director of health ordered a thorough disinfection of the decks with chloride of lime, and telegraphed to all the ports in the south to receive the vessel only after a thorough and minute examination.

Plague in Payta.

The following information of plague in Payta is taken from a report

of the alcalde of that city:

Total number of cases from April 29 to July 1, 56. Of this number 30 died and 10 have been discharged cured. Antipest serum was tried on 30, of which number 7 died. In fighting the spread of plague old houses infested by rats were destroyed and burned, as was also the old city wharf. Committees were appointed to make house-to-house inspections, to supervise the cleaning of the streets, to inspect the quality of medicines and other articles sold to the public; carts were provided to gather and carry off garbage and dirty water which was previously thrown into the sea; rat traps have been distributed to the public; poison has been placed on the wharves and in the squares to kill rats, and the seabeach cleaned daily by a special squad. A physician has also been sent to Colàn. Smallpox, which has been prevailing in Payta, is now dying out.

Circular relative to quarantine measures at Ancon, Canal Zone.

Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service. Office of Medical Officer in Command. Guayaquil, Ecuador, July 16, 1904.

To ship agents etc., Guayaquil.

SIRS: I have the honor to notify you that I have been advised by Surg. R. H. Carter, chief quarantine officer, Isthmian Canal Commission, that the following measures will be enforced at port of Ancon, Canal Zone, with reference to all vessels, their crews, passengers, and others from Guayaquil.

1. All passengers immune to yellow fever and so certified by the medical officer of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service at

Guayaquil will be subjected to no restrictions.

2. Other passengers will be held at port of arrival (Ancon) to com-

plete five days from last presumable exposure to yellow fever.

3. (a) If a vessel lie at an anchorage at Guayaquil where she can receive no infection (infected stegomyiæ) from shore or water craft, or (b) has a certificate from the medical officer of the above-named service that she was fumigated before departure, the date of sailing will be considered the date of last exposure. (c) If the anchorage is approved by said officer then the date of going aboard this vessel will be this date.

4. If the vessel lie at an anchorage where she can receive infection, even if she be disinfected on leaving, all passengers and crew will be considered as exposed to yellow fever at Guayaquil—that is, if disinfected on leaving Guayaquil, detained to make up five days from disfection; if not disinfected at Guayaquil, the vessel will be disinfected at port of arrival (Ancon), and all on board held five days from completion of disinfection, except those holding certificates of immunity.

I am further instructed by Doctor Carter to assure you that every consideration will be paid to the comfort of passengers and to facilitate shipping. A building is being fitted up for the detention of passengers, and pending its completion, if the number be small, they will be held at hotels in the city, where they will be subject to observation

but very little restriction of liberty.

For the purpose of these regulations, the evidence of immunity which will be accepted by this office is (a) proof of previous attack of yellow fever; (b) proof of continued residence within an endemic focus

of vellow fever for ten years.

Proof of immunity satisfactory to this office is (a) a certificate of a reputable physician that the bearer was attended by him during an attack of yellow fever, or (b) a certificate signed by two reputable citizens, personally known to me, that the bearer has lived within an endemic focus of yellow fever for ten continuous years. The provinces of Guayas and Los Rios will be considered as endemic foci of yellow fever.

In order that passengers leaving Guayaquil may avail themselves of the advantage granted in section 3c, this office recommends an anchorage between Matadero and the Guasmo, well out in midstream. Vessels so anchoring, which have been disinfected by the port authorities

on arrival, will not require further disinfection on departure.

Respectfully,

FLEETWOOD GRUVER, Acting Assistant Surgeon.

A copy of the above was sent to all the steamship agents in the city.

CERTIFICATE.

| Office | and Marine-Hospital Service, of Medical Officer in Command, Guayaquil, Ecuador, ———, 190—. |
|--|---|
| To whom it may concern: | |
| This is to certify that Mr. ——————————————————————————————————— | -, whose signature appears below, a pas- —, has given satisfactory evidence to me |
| DESCRIPTION. | |
| Nationality Last residence Age years Weight pounds Stature feet inches | Hair Eves |
| Remarks: Signature of the bearer, | Sungcon |

Circular relative to vaccination of immigrants entering Canal Zone.

Under the authority granted by the governor's announcement of June 30, 1904, and governed by the Panama Código de Policia, article 539, ordinance No. 11, department of sanitation, vaccination of immigrants, every person entering the Canal Zone by sea to reside in said Zone shall, prior to such entry, present satisfactory evidence of protection against smallpox, either by previous attack, by vaccination, or be vaccinated.

This order to take effect from August 31, 1904.

W. C. Gorgas, Chief Sanitary Officer.

Plague at Puná officially denied.

August 9, 1904.

Bubonic plague infection in Puná is officially denied. I have just returned from an interview with the president of the superior board of health who was also a member of the committee sent to Puná to investigate the matter. I am informed by him that the suspicions of the medical officer at Puná were aroused by the fact that a rat was discovered dying in a house occupied by a man who had received biscuits some time ago from the steamship *Denderah* from Callao and other southern ports. On examination the rat was discovered to have enlarged glands. The board of health was notified but the rat was burned before the committee reached there. A search for rats was made by the committee and several were caught.

It is claimed that they were affected by a worm known here as the "gusano de monte," field maggot, which attacks horses, cows, etc., that roam the woods. The rats were brought here and are said to have been subjected to bacteriological examination.

Since then other rats have been found but no further examination has been made.

GERMANY.

Report from Berlin—Plague and cholera in various countries.

Consul-General Mason reports, August 15, 1904, as follows:

Plague.

Egypt.—During the week ended July 30 there were registered in Egypt 17 new cases of plague (with 8 deaths), namely, 8 cases (2 deaths) in Zagazig, 6 cases (3 deaths) in Alexandria, 2 cases (2 deaths) in the district of Beni Suef, and 1 case (1 death) in the district of Bibeh.

Japan.—During the month of May there were registered in Formosa 1,308 cases of plague with 983 deaths.

British South Africa.—During the period from June 26 to July 1 2 new cases of plague were registered in Port Elizabeth.

Cholera.

Turkey.—According to Bulletin No. 28, of July 25, there have been registered in Turkey 683 fresh cases of plague and 541 deaths.